



NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM

Sponsoring Institution(s): Central Methodist University

Program Title: Physical Therapist Assistant

Degree/Certificate: Associate of Science

Options: n/a

Delivery Site(s): Fayette

CIP Classification: 51.0806

*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory higher.ed.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp

Implementation Date: ?

Cooperative Partners: n/a

*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

AUTHORIZATION:

Dr. Rita Gulstad, Provost

Rita Gulstad

Digitally signed by Rita Gulstad
DN: cn=Rita Gulstad, o=Central Methodist
University, ou=Provost,
email=rgulstad@centralmethodist.edu, c=US
Date: 2015.11.24 08:40:15 -0600

Name/Title of Institutional Officer

Signature

Date

Dr. Deborah DeGan-Dixon, Associate Dean

660/264-0025

Person to Contact for More Information

Telephone

www.dhe.mo.gov • info@dhe.mo.gov

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Form NP – New Program Proposal



STUDENT ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full Time	15	30	30	30	30
Part Time	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	15	30	30	30	30

Please provide a rationale regarding how student enrollment projections were calculated:

The PTA program would be capped at 15 students per cohort, students would be admitted to the program as freshman. There would be concurrent increases in students enrolling in the general education and pre-requisite science coursework. Calculations are based on the number of students who enter into the once-a-year entry point (1st year students); plus, the number of students who will continue until completion.

Provide a **rationale** for proposing this program, including **evidence of market demand and societal need supported by research**:

Rationale for the Program

Physical Therapy (PT) is the treatment of disease, injury, or deformity by physical methods such as massage, heat treatment, and exercise rather than by drugs or surgery. PT helps individual return to their maximum level of physical function and in many cases, treatment without surgery. When a physical therapist sees a patient/client for the first time, he or she examines that individual and develops a plan of care that promotes the ability to move, reduces pain, restores function, and prevents disability. The physical therapist may choose to utilize a physical therapist assistant (PTA) in the provision of components of the physical therapy treatment. PTAs may provide care and therapy through exercise, massage, gait and balance training, and therapeutic modalities, such as electrical stimulation and ultrasound. PTAs record patients' progress and report the results of each treatment to the physical therapist. The physical therapist, PTA, and the patient/client then work side-by-side to make sure that the goals of the plan or care are met (American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), 2015).

According to APTA and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, most states require PTAs to have an associate's degree from an accredited physical therapist assistant program. Further, most states require PTAs to be licensed or certified. Licensure typically requires graduation from an accredited PTA program and passing the National Physical Therapy Exam.

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Central Methodist University (CMU) has a long history of offering quality allied health programs. CMU's allied health program mission and philosophy statements express the University's desire to provide opportunities for qualified students to acquire the knowledge necessary to provide quality healthcare; in addition, acquire knowledge and skills which emphasizes honesty, integrity, civility and a strong sense of personal responsibility. CMU's PTA program will assist with meeting increasing needs for healthcare services in rural communities and the local cities/communities; and assist with increasing needs for diverse and qualified health care professionals. Further, CMU has experienced a growth in the number of students who are interested in completing a degree in an allied health other than nursing. Existing health professions programs housed on campus will benefit from the addition of the PTA program—BSN, PTA and OTA will be housed in the newly constructed Throgmorton Allied Health Building with opportunities for inter-professional collaboration throughout the respective curriculum.

In conjunction with CMU's AS-PTA, the university offers a bachelor degree completion program, the Bachelor of Health Science (BHS) degree. The BHS is designed to assist those who wish to work in healthcare as an Occupational Therapy Assistant, Physical Therapist Assistant, or other allied health field.

University-wide analysis of retention data identified a need to strengthen existing pre-allied health programming; plus, expand programming in allied health area in order to respond to the Institute of Medicine initiative for integrated pre-professional level health education (Institute of Medicine, 2013).

Market Demand

The Missouri Economic Outlook (Missouri Department of Economic Development, 2008) reports that four (4) of the ten (10) fastest growing industries from 2008-2018 are related to health services which continue to grow due to an aging population. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the demand for PTA is expected to spike upward by an astonishing 35% between 2008 and 2018—a much quicker rate than average. As of 2010, there are approximately 63,800 licensed/certified PTAs working in the United States, and that number is expected to jump to 85,000 over the next 10 years (Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2015).

Presently, approximately 72 percent of PTAs work in privately owned clinics or hospitals; whereas others work in rehabilitation units, home healthcare, or schools. In the coming years, physical therapists are predicted to rely more on PTAs, creating more job opportunities. Delegation of responsibilities to PTAs will not only reduce the cost of services but also increase the number of patients seen at the healthcare facility. Advances in the medical field enhance the survival percentage of newborns suffering from birth defects and trauma victims, further increasing the demand for rehabilitative services (Physical Therapist Assistant Guide, 2015).

Societal Needs

Helping people to attain or regain the ability to walk and carry out daily life can lead to a great feeling of personal satisfaction. The soaring demand for PTAs can be attributed to the aging population, particularly baby boomers who are more vulnerable to chronic and debilitating conditions that require physical therapy services.

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PTAs currently play a vital role in America's healthcare sector. With the growing importance of providing for the patient's long-term health and ability to resume normal activities, physical therapy has become a central part of many treatment plans, both during and after the patient's hospital stay. Physical therapy is a set of procedures that assists individuals in regaining the full use of their bodies after an accident or medical procedure. Depending on the nature of the injury, this therapy may be a short-term procedure, while in other cases the physical therapy may be a process that continues for the entire life of the patient. Physical therapy is an important component of the overall medical treatment plan.



PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE GOALS

Institution Name Central Methodist University
Program Name AS-Physical Therapist Assistant
Date November 20, 2015

(Although all of the following guidelines may not be applicable to the proposed program, please carefully consider the elements in each area and respond as completely as possible in the format below. Quantification of performance goals should be included wherever possible.)

1. Student Preparation

- Any special admissions procedures or student qualifications required for this program which exceed regular university admissions, standards, e.g., ACT score, completion of core curriculum, portfolio, personal interview, etc. Please note if no special preparation will be required.

Prospective students to the PTA Program must first be accepted to Central Methodist University, and indicate a potential degree of Associate of Science-Physical Therapist Assistant. Students are then required to complete the application process specific to the PTA program. Admittance to the PTA program is competitive and all requirements must be met prior to consideration of the student's application. To be admitted to the CMU PTA program as a freshman: 1.) Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. 2.) Applicants must submit the application for admission to the PTA program. 3.) Applicants must submit a cumulative ACT score of 22 or higher to be considered for admission. A TEAS V score will be accepted for students having taken the ACT greater than three years prior to application or having completed 12 or more credit hours of college level course work (excluding dual credit). 4.) Applicants must score 21 or above on the ACT English sub score, or have previously completed ENG110 and ENG111 with a minimum grade of B. 5.) Applicants must score 21 or above on the ACT Math sub score or have completed the prerequisite courses to take MA103 with a minimum score of B. 6.) Applicants must have earned a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher to be considered for admission. 7.) Applicants with dual credit courses must have earned a 2.75 cumulative GPA for all college level coursework. 8.) Applicants obtain and submit two (2) references. One must be from an employer or educator, the other may include coaches, organization leaders, individuals who can attest to the students' professional and organizational skills. A form is available as part of the application to the PTA Program. 9.) Applicants must complete a minimum of 24 hours of observation in a physical therapy setting supervised by a licensed PT or PTA. It is recommended that the applicant obtain these hours in a variety of health care settings. Time complete and signature of supervisor is required. A form is available as part of the application to the PTA Program. 10.) Perspective applicants are required to watch an informational video available via the PTA web site. This short video will provide details

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about the physical therapy profession, the PTA program at CMU and the application process. A code will be provided at the end of the video. This code is required to be reported on the program application. 11.) The top 25 applicants, based on a predetermined scoring system, will be invited for a group interview process. Applicants will be notified of interview dates in April. Acceptance notification will occur on or before May 15.

- Characteristics of a specific population to be served, if applicable.

PTA Program at Central Methodist University is designed to prepare students to make a positive impact on the physical therapy profession. By incorporating a liberal arts and clinical sciences, perspective students become competent entry level physical therapist assistants knowledgeable in fundamental theory, and proficient in clinical application under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist. Consistent with the University, the program supports a commitment to personal responsibility, professional excellence, and ethical leadership in service to others.

2. Faculty Characteristics

- Any special requirements (degree status, training, etc.) for assignment of teaching for this degree/certificate.

Program Director will be a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who holds a current license/certification to practice in the jurisdiction where the program is located, holds a minimum of a master's degree, has a minimum of five years (or equivalent), full-time, post licensure experience that includes a minimum of three years (or equivalent) of full-time clinical experience, has didactic and/or clinical teaching experience, has experience in administration/management, and has experience in educational theory and methodology, instructional design, student evaluation and outcome assessment, including the equivalent of nine credits of coursework in educational foundations. The program director is a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who demonstrates an understanding of education and contemporary clinical practice appropriate for leadership in physical therapist assistant education. Director of Clinical Education will be a physical therapist or physical therapist assistant who holds current license or certification in the jurisdiction where the program is located and has a minimum of three years of full-time post-licensure clinical practice. Two years of clinical practice experience must include experience as a CCCE or CI in physical therapy, or a minimum of two years of experience in teaching, curriculum development and administration in a PT or PTA program. Additional Core Faculty member, including the program director and clinical education coordinator, will have contemporary expertise in assigned teaching areas and demonstrated effectiveness in teaching and student evaluation. In addition, core faculty who are PTs/PTAs and who are teaching clinical PT content are licensed or regulated as a PT or PTA in the jurisdiction where the program exists.

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Physical therapists and physical therapist assistants who are core faculty will have a minimum of three years of full time (or equivalent) post-licensure clinical experience in physical therapy. Each core faculty member will have a record of institutional or professional service. The collective core and associated faculty include an effective blend of individuals who possess the appropriate educational preparation and clinical and/or professional experiences sufficient to meet program goals and expected student outcomes as related to program mission and institutional expectations and assigned program responsibilities.

- Estimated percentage of credit hours that will be assigned to full time faculty. Please use the term "full time faculty" (and not FTE) in your descriptions here.
Program Director: 50% release time. Academic Fieldwork Coordinator: 25% Release time. Both positions must be employed full-time.
- Expectations for professional activities, special student contact, teaching/learning innovation.
Professional activities and teaching/learning innovation required to maintain required credentials to teach in PTA program. All CMU faculty will be evaluated for professional growth for the purpose of promoting effective teaching and advising.

3. Enrollment Projections

- Student FTE majoring in program by the end of five years.
30
- Percent of full time and part time enrollment by the end of five years.
n/a

4. Student and Program Outcomes

- Number of graduates per annum at three and five years after implementation.
Year 3-30 graduates; Year 5-65 graduates.
- Special skills specific to the program.
The PTA Program at Central Methodist University is designed to prepare students to make a positive impact on the physical therapy profession. By incorporating a liberal arts and clinical sciences perspective students become competent entry level physical therapist assistants knowledgeable in fundamental theory, and proficient in clinical application under the direction and supervision of the physical therapist. Consistent with the University the program supports a commitment to personal responsibility, professional excellence, and ethical leadership in service to others.

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- Proportion of students who will achieve licensing, certification, or registration.
CAPTE accreditation standards for PTA programs require that students have the option to complete the entire program in a 24-month period. Following graduation of CMU's PTA program, graduates will be eligible to sit for the National Board Certification for Physical Therapy exam. CMU anticipates a 100% placement of all students graduating from the program and passing the national certification board exam
- Performance on national and/or local assessments, e.g., percent of students scoring above the 50th percentile on normed tests; percent of students achieving minimal cut-scores on criterion-referenced tests. Include expected results on assessments of general education and on exit assessments in a particular discipline as well as the name of any nationally recognized assessments used.
CMU's nationally recognized assessment in similar areas include: Accreditation of Nursing and Allied Health Program: 2015 NCLEX Pass Rate: 85.1%. Accreditation of Athletic Training Program: 2014 Board Certification Pass rate: 100%; 3 year average: 65%. Education Program Certification Pass Rate for 2012-13 Program Completers: 82% pass rate.
- Placement rates in related fields, in other fields, unemployed.
85.58% of May 2014 graduates are employed or pursuing an advanced degree. This number is based on student reporting through the First Destination Survey. CMU anticipates a 100% placement of all students graduating from the program and passing the national certification board exam.
- Transfer rates, continuous study.
Following completion of the AS-PTA students have the opportunity to continue their general education and Health Sciences curriculum and complete their Bachelors in Health Sciences.

5. Program Accreditation

- Institutional plans for accreditation, if applicable, including accrediting agency and timeline. **If there are no plans to seek specialized accreditation, please provide a rationale.**
The Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) is the only recognized agency in the United States for accrediting education programs for the preparation of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants. The Commission strives to assure that accredited programs prepare graduates who will be effective in their roles as physical therapists and as assistants to physical therapists in the contemporary practice of physical therapy. Central Methodist University will seek accreditation of a new physical therapist assistant education program from CAPTE. CMU has begun the process toward accreditation and will submit an Application for

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Candidacy. The program will be defined as an Applicant or Developing Program until full accreditation is granted.

6. Alumni and Employer Survey

- Expected satisfaction rates for alumni, including timing and method of surveys.
Each year, CMU's Office of Alumni Relations and Office of Career Development conduct surveys of recent graduates. Over 87% (N=231) of CMU's graduates were satisfied with the knowledge and skills gained in preparation for employment in their chosen occupation. Various CMU programs survey their graduates/alumni to determine perceptions of the academic program, the satisfaction of program outcomes, and the adequacy of academic program support services. Results of these surveys show a high satisfaction rate of CMU's alumni and graduates. At this time, Central Methodist University conducts exit surveys to the graduates of the professional education and nursing programs. And while the survey are a requirement for professional accreditation or program licensure, the University shares this information as a commitment to transparency and providing consumers, employers, and stakeholders information about CMU's programs and services. Surveys are usually distributed via the internet to all graduates with valid email addresses. The nursing graduate survey collects information regarding the graduates' current employment status, future or current educational plans, and achievement of specific goals. CMU's education program collects employment and satisfaction survey information from employers via student teaching evaluations and teaching placement. Data indicate high satisfaction with CMU's academic program, with employment preparation, and with the resources provided while at CMU.
- Expected satisfaction rates for employers, including timing and method of surveys.
Various programs throughout CMU assess program outcomes through an EMPLOYER SURVEY (post-graduate). In addition, employers assess student learning via internship and practicum performance, and via employer evaluations included in program curriculum.

7. Institutional Characteristics

- Characteristics demonstrating why your institution is particularly well-equipped to support the program.
Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility. In addition to its 30+ academic programs at the Fayette campus, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, CMU offers undergraduate and graduate programs around Missouri through its College of Graduate and Extended Studies. Central Methodist University is known for its high quality undergraduate and graduate educational programs, its value-centered learning experiences and religious affiliation, its strong liberal arts tradition, its emphasis on character and leadership development, and the success of its

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graduates through their further educational and professional pursuits. CMU is characterized by its academic excellence and its proactive, personalized student services. CMU's programs of study are offered in Fayette, online, and statewide. CMU also offers quality education programs via community partnerships as well as through collaborative agreements with schools, churches, hospitals, and other institutions of higher education. CMU holds true to her mission and vision to offer career oriented and student-centered education. These institutional characteristics make CMU well equipped to offer a program in physical therapist assistant.

<i>82.5 hours -- The Associate of Science in PTA program is pending approval from CAPTE and students will not be admitted to the program until application for candidacy is approved.</i>	
Common Core (27.5 Hours): for a list of approved common core courses, see page 54	
Foundations	15-21 hours
Wellness (Met in the PTA major area)	***
CMU101/102	1.5 hours
Freshman Writing (Must have completed EN110/111 or be eligible for EN120)	3 hours (6 hours if taking EN110 & EN111)
Oral Communications	3 hours
Math/Algebra/Statistics: Must take MA103.	3 hours (5-8 hours if taking MA099 and/or MA103I)
Understanding Human Nature: Humanities/Fine Arts	3 hours
Human Anatomy and Physiology: combined. Will accept separate if completed prior to application	5 hours
Religion	3 hours
Social Science with Constitution	3 hours
Leadership (Met in the PTA major area)	****
Literature	3 hours
Valuing or Social Science (MUST take: PY101-General Psychology)	3 hours
TOTAL	27.5
Additional General Education Requirements	6 hours
AH212 Medical Terminology	3 hours
PY223 Developmental Psychology	3 hours
TOTAL	6 hours
Physical Therapist Assistant Program (49 Hours)	
PTA100 Introduction to Physical Therapy	2 hours
PTA101 Essential Skills for the PTA	4 hours

PTA102 Kinesiology for the PTA	4 hours
PTA103 Modalities for the PTA	4 hours
PTA104 Functional Human Anatomy	3 hours
PTA200 Therapeutic Exercise	4 hours
PTA201 Pathophysiology for the PTA	3 hours
PTA202 PTA Orthopedic Rehabilitation	4 hours
PTA203 PTA Neuromuscular Rehabilitation	5 hours
PTA204 PTA Seminar	2 hours
PFW001 Clinical Education I	4 hour
PFW002 Clinical Education II	4 hours
PFW003 Clinical Education III	6 hours
TOTAL	49